

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/817,366
Response dated August 25, 2004
Reply to OA of February 25, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 7 have been amended in order to more particularly point out, and distinctly claim the subject matter to which the applicants regard as their invention. The applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Response is fully responsive to the Office Action dated February 25, 2004.

Claims 1 - 7 remain in this application.

The corrected formal drawing (Figure 19), filed November 12, 2003, was approved by the Examiner. Formal drawings for the remaining figures are submitted herewith to the Examiner, in full compliance with the Examiner's comments in item 2, page 2 of the outstanding Action.

In response to the Examiner's comments, as set forth in item 3, page 2 and 3 of the outstanding Office Action, concerning the language of the claims, the applicants have deleted the reference numbers or characters accompanying the claimed elements.

Accordingly, the withdrawal of the outstanding objections to the claim language is in order, and is therefore respectfully solicited.

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Claims 1 - 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the specific reasons set forth in item 5, pages 3 - 5 of the outstanding Action. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this indefiniteness rejection.

As indicated above, claims 1 - 7 have been amended in order to more particularly point out, and distinctly claim the subject matter to which the applicants regard as their invention, and in order to correct certain informalities therein, including those pointed out by the Examiner.

Also, in response to the Examiner's inquiry (in item ix., page 4 of the outstanding Office Action), the applicants respectfully point out that the twice recited "soft solder layer" in claim 5 are the same.

In view of the above, the withdrawal of the outstanding indefiniteness rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is in order, and is therefore respectfully solicited.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date is requested.

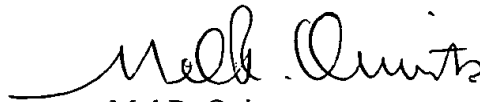
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If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Replacement Sheets of Drawings: Figs. 1(a), 1(b), 1(c), 1(d), 2(a), 2(b), 2(c), 2(d), 3(a), 3(b), 3(c), 4-6, 7(a), 7(b), 8(a), 8(b), 9, 10(a), 10(b), 10(c), 11(a), 11(b), 12-14, 15(a), 15(b), 15(c), 16(a), 16(b), 16(c), 17(a), 17(b), 18 and 19